

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 GAC-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01

RSR-01 /095 W

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O R 120955 Z MAR 73 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8254

INFO AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, FR

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE ELECTION RESULTS

POUCHED: BORDEAUX, LYON, MARSEILLE, NICE, AND STRASBOURG

MOSCOW FOR SECRETARY SHULTZ AND SONNENFELDT

REF: PARIS 05301

PARIS 05713

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1. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING RESULTS FOR 483 OUT OF 490 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS: GOVERNMENT COALITION: 256 OF WHICH UDR 181, IR 54 AND CDP 21. IN ADDITION, 15 DEPUTIES CALLED " DIVERSE MAJORITY" WERE ELECTED. THIS BRINGS TOTAL GOVERNMENT STRENGTH IN NEW ASSEMBLY TO 271. THE LEFT: THE UNITED LEFT WON 176 SEATS, OF WHICH THE COMMUNISTS 73, SOCIALISTS 89, LEFT RADICALS 11 AND PSU 3. LEFT CANDIDATES WHO DID NOT SUPPORT COMMON PROGRAM ARE LISTED AS " DIVERSE LEFT" AND WON FIVE SEATS. THE REFORMERS WON 28 SEATS. FAR RIGHT CANDIDATES WON 3 SEATS. (ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF ASSEMBLY IS 246 SEATS).

2. THERE WAS AGAIN MASSIVE TURNOUT AT POLLS WITH SOME 82 PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE FRENCH VOTERS VOTING. INCOMPLETE AND UN-OFFICIAL RETURNS INDICATE THAT GOVERNMENT COALITION AND UNITED LEFT BOTH DREW ABOUT 46 PERCENT OF THE SECOND ROUND VOTE WITH THE REST GOING TO THE REFORMERS AND INDEPENDENTS.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER MAURICE SCHUMANN WAS DEFEATED AS WAS MINISTER OF JUSTICE RENE PLEVEN AND EDITOR UDR DAILY LA NATION, MICHEL HABIB- DELONCLE. JEAN JACQUES SERVAN- SCHREIBER, JEAN LECANUET AND FORMER GAULLIST MINISTER JACQUES SOUSTELLE WERE ELECTED. ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT MINISTERS AND PROMINENT PERSONALITIES WERE ELECTED.

4. ALTHOUGH REFORMERS ONLY WON 28 SEATS OUTRIGHT, THEY HAVE ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT A HANDFUL OF INDEPENDENTS WILL RALLY TO THEIR CAUSE SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE THIRTY SEATS NECESSARY TO FORM A PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN THE ASSEMBLY.

5. SEVEN SEATS REMAIN UNDECIDED. THESE ARE IN OVERSEAS TERRITORIES AND IN CORSICA. FINAL RESULTS, THEREFORE, WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

6. COMMENT: PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS INDICATES CENTRIST VOTERS AND HEALTHY PERCENTAGE OF SOCIALISTS VOTED FOR GOVERNMENT COALITION CANDIDATE RATHER THAN COMMUNIST ON SECOND ROUND. IT ALSO SEEMS CLEAR THAT SUBSTANTIAL PERCENTAGE OF CENTRIST VOTE WENT TO GOVERNMENT COALITION CANDIDATES RATHER THAN SOCIALISTS ON RUN- OFF. THE GOVERNMENT THUS EMERGED WITH A SOLID WORKING MAJORITY AND DID SLIGHTLY BETTER THAN MOST OBSERVERS FORESAW. ALTHOUGH UDR (GAULLIST PARTY) LOST 106 SEATS, IT REMAINS LARGEST PARTY IN FRANCE WITH 181 DEPUTIES. PRESIDENT POMPIDOU HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MADE NO STATEMENT ON THE OUTCOME, BUT PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN ASSURED ELECTORATE LAST NIGHT THAT VOTERS'
DEMAND FOR INNOVATION AND CHANGE WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.
MESSMER GOVERNMENT AS A MATTER OF CUSTOM WILL RESIGN. POMPIDOU
MAY NOT DECIDE HOW TO RESHAPE GOVERNMENT UNTIL JUST BEFORE
APRIL 2 OPENING OF PARLIAMENTARY SESSION. EXEMPT.
KUBISCH

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
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EUR
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